



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Northeastern Area  
State & Private  
Forestry

180 Canfield Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400 (NA-08-12)  
Date: September 9, 2008

Subject: 2008 Emerald Ash Borer Survey

To: Jil Swearingen  
USDI National Park Service  
Center for Urban Ecology  
4598 Mac Arthur Boulevard, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

Starting in May 2008, personnel from this office began surveying for the emerald ash borer on the Rock Creek Park and Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. This year's survey included the use of purple panel traps, and visual surveys. We did detect several buprestid beetles on our traps at Rock Creek Park, none of which appear to be EAB, but these samples have been forwarded to Matt Travis with APHIS for final identification. No signs of emerald ash borer were detected. However, the presence of emerald ash borer, especially in its early state of infestation is extremely difficult to detect.

The emerald ash borer is an invasive beetle that has been found in several States, including Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland and West Virginia. Since its accidental introduction sometime in the late 1990s, this beetle has caused millions of dollars in damage to ash trees across the Midwest, and has produced wide-ranging quarantines and regulations on movement of ash trees and firewood in the hopes of preventing further spread. The Emerald ash borer impacts all North American species of ash trees, and may be spread over long distances through the transport of trees and wood products, such as nursery stock and firewood.

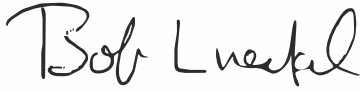
The Emerald ash borer has become a major forest pest of ash in the Eastern United States. It cannot be stressed enough that this insect is coming, and decisions need to be made now to educate your staff and visitors about this insect. Educational information about this borer is available on the World Wide Web (<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>) through this office. We hope that this information will be used throughout the District. We would also request that your personnel work with this office to identify and survey ash resources located throughout the District.

Please remind National Park personnel that they have the primary responsibility for on-the-ground, initial detection of insect and/or disease outbreaks. We ask that all personnel continue to monitor for evidence of insect activity and tree defoliation, discoloration, and mortality in their areas and report any insect and disease activity to the Morgantown Field Office.



If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte or Chelsea Gibson at (304) 285-1503

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Lueckel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ROBERT G. LUECKEL  
Field Representative  
Morgantown Field Office

Cc: Monica Lear, DC UFA  
Matt Travis, APHIS  
Wayne Millington, NPS Eastern Region